

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CONGRATULATING THE ARMY
FOOTBALL TEAM'S VICTORY
OVER NAVY

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 20, 2017

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the Army football team's victory over the Navy.

The Army-Navy football game is one of college football's most famous rivalries, played this year on December 9, 2017, at Lincoln Financial Field in Philadelphia. Last year in December of 2016, the Army Black Knights won their first game against the Navy Midshipmen in 14 years. This year, Army won its second consecutive game with a score of 14–13, earning the Commander-in-Chief's Trophy. The victory was hard-fought in harsh, snowy conditions, not unfamiliar to the men and women who have served in the 10th Mountain Division.

Army wore uniforms that were a tribute to the 21st Congressional District's own 10th Mountain Division, which was established in 1943. The soldiers of the 10th Mountain Division are notorious for training in severe conditions created by high elevations and mountain climates. To honor those who have served while assigned to the unit, the uniform featured the division's coat of arms along with the words "Vires Montesque Vincimus" on the right shoulder, which means "We Conquer Powers and Mountains." The Mountain Salute, "Climb to Glory," could be seen under the coat of arms and the "Follow Me" sign was placed on their helmets. Additionally, the team wore the Panda Patch on their cleats, a patch that originally helped identify the soldiers who were nicknamed the Pando Commandos, a nod to the 10th Mountain Division's roots in Pando, Colorado.

On behalf of the 21st District, I want to congratulate the United States Military Academy at West Point on their victory and recognize the Soldiers of the 10th Mountain Division who fought in World War II and those who continue to fight today to keep our nation safe.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. VICENTE GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 20, 2017

Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas. Mr. Speaker, on roll call No. 690 I was inadvertently recorded as voting "no." I support the Women in Aerospace Education Act and my vote should be recorded as "yes."

TRIBUTE TO PAT AND JOHN
WHEELER

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 20, 2017

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Pat and John Wheeler of Council Bluffs, Iowa on the very special occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary. They were married on October 6, 1967 at St. Paul's United Church of Christ in Council Bluffs.

Pat and John's lifelong commitment to each other and their family truly embodies Iowa values. As they reflect on their 50th anniversary, may their commitment grow even stronger, as they continue to love, cherish, and honor one another for many years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I commend this great couple on their 50th year together and I wish them many more. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating them on this momentous occasion and in wishing them nothing but the best.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 1, TAX CUTS AND JOBS ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 19, 2017

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD letters from the Faith and Freedom Coalition, Taxpayers Protection Alliance, Club for Growth, and FreedomWorks:

FAITH AND FREEDOM COALITION.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE: On behalf of the 1.5 million members and supporters of the Faith & Freedom Coalition, I urge you to vote YES on the Conference Report to H.R. 1, the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA). A vote for this bill is a vote for tax cuts that Republicans have promised and America's hardworking families desperately deserve. The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act will strengthen families, grow the economy, and create jobs. To that end, Faith & Freedom Coalition will score the vote on H.R. 1 as vote to cut taxes for families and as a vote to begin the process of repealing Obamacare. This vote will appear in tens of millions of Congressional Scorecards and voter guides distributed in over 100,000 churches.

Since Congress last passed major tax reform over thirty years ago, the tax code has become riddled with corporate giveaways and special-interest provisions that benefit the politically-connected and privileged at the expense of working families. This legislation makes the tax code simpler and fairer, strengthens the family, increase wages, creates jobs, and makes small, family-owned businesses more competitive.

H.R. 1 doubles the child tax credit to \$2,000, makes it available to more families by in-

creasing the income eligibility thresholds, and makes up to \$1,400 refundable to lower and middle-class working families. This provision is pro-life, pro-child, pro-family and pro-middle class. Doubling the standard deduction protects more of the average family's income from taxation, keeping more of their paycheck at home rather than sending it to Washington.

The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act also reduces the tax rate on the hard-earned income of small, family-owned businesses—creating the lowest tax rate on small business income since World War II. Mom and Pop businesses are the backbone of the American economy and the American family. Over 80% of new jobs are created by Main Street businesses and they need a tax rate that enables them to compete with overseas competitors and Wall Street corporations. These small businesses are often family affairs and are a key component to supporting stronger, more secure families.

Finally, repealing Obamacare's individual mandate and returning the savings to families is another tax cut for working families. Nearly 7 million American families paid over \$3 billion because of Obamacare's individual mandate tax, and 80 percent make less than \$50,000 a year. The Obamacare individual mandate is one of the most regressive taxes in the nation, punishing work and savings and hurting those least able to pay. Repealing it is a critical, if partial, fulfillment of the larger promise to end the disaster of Obamacare.

America's families have already waited too long for tax cuts that let them keep their hard earned dollars and care for their families. We must not fail them. The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act will simplify the code so that it is fairer for families and individuals, while also encouraging the economy to grow, leading to the creation of more jobs and higher wages.

For all these reasons, Faith & Freedom Coalition will include the vote on Conference Report to H.R. 1, the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA) in our Congressional Score and voter guides as a key vote in the 115th Congress.

Thank you for considering the views of our millions of members and supporters.

TAXPAYERS PROTECTION ALLIANCE.

The Taxpayers Protection Alliance (TPA), representing millions of taxpayers across the country, urges the House of Representatives to vote YES for the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act. TPA is encouraged by the final tax reform package crafted by the conference committee. This legislation will provide comprehensive tax relief for millions of Americans.

The conference report has many positive aspects, including a doubled standard deduction, a 21 percent corporate rate, and a \$2,000 child tax credit. This legislation allows the economy to flourish, as small businesses get the green light to expand, hire, and increase wages. Individuals and families will have an easier time saving for education and retirement, with the thousands of dollars in annual savings from the legislation.

Additionally, the repeal of the Obamacare individual mandate penalty relieves an onerous burden for taxpayers while saving hundreds of billions in exchange subsidy payments. Taxpayers will finally have the freedom to forgo health insurance if they choose,

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